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SUMMARY OF OPA ORDERS ISSUED DURING WEEK ENDING JUNE 5 AFFECTING AGRICULTURE

Prepared especially for State Extension Directors

By the OPA
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OPA moved to halt price rises in meats this week, taking action in several quarters that have a vital bearing on farm income. The controls, however, were placed at the processor or manufacturer level rather than directly on the farm product itself.

MEAT

A zone pricing system has been established for meat scraps and digester tankage, placing all manufacturers on an equal competitive position, relative to raw material purchases (OPA Release PM 3510). This replaces price ceilings based on each individual seller's maximum price. Although uniform prices are set up under the new order, there will be little net change in the national average price from the previous regulation.

OPA denied protests of six packing concerns asking for relief from ceiling prices on dressed hogs and wholesale pork cuts (PM 3535).

FATS AND OILS

Price Administrator Henderson readjusted price levels on lard at several stages of its distribution (PM 3527). Processors' maximum selling price on refined lard to the wholesaler and retailer were cut back to the February 1942 level. However, maximum prices of refined lard to consumers remain unchanged at the March 1942 peak levels under the General Maximum Price Regulation. Simultaneously, OPA increased permissible ceilings on various grades of lard and steam-rendered pork fat in the preprocessed state.

OPA established specific dollars-and-cents maximum prices for oleo stock, oleo oil, and oleo stearine, to all classes of buyers for any purpose (PM 3556).

GENERAL MAXIMUM PRICE REGULATION

Several changes made in the General Maximum Price Regulation are of pertinent agricultural interest.

Canned citrus fruits and citrus juices were removed from the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM 3504). However, Price Administrator Henderson cautioned sellers against making unreasonable price advances.

Cat and dog foods are subject to the General Maximum Price Regulation and are not exempted as a mixed feed (PM 3480).

All sales of imported commodities to the U. S. Government or its agencies after May 17, 1942, have been excepted from provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM 3486). Certain specified contracts for the manufacture of field jackets (windbreakers) for the U. S. Army are excluded from the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM 3475).

Rice and lard merchandisers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands may dispose of their present stocks at direct cost, exclusive of overhead, whenever such costs exceed the highest March 1942 price which they would be permitted to charge under the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM 3547).

Poles, posts, piling, split stock, mine timber, and semfinished timber products are subject to the General Maximum Price Regulation (PM3531). However, sales by a farmer of commodities grown and processed on his farm, if the total of such sales or deliveries does not exceed \$75 in any one month, are exempt. Questions and answers of interest to the ice-cream industry and its suppliers in connection with the GMPR were issued (T-417).

GOVERNMENT BUYING

OPA established specific ceiling prices for certain canned meat and frozen boneless beef items sold to Government purchasing agencies (PM 3525). Result, substantial Army savings, compared with recent prices paid for such commodities.

Because many Army specifications require special features, OPA announced a method for pricing such items sold to war procurement agencies after July 1, 1942 (PM 3539). This will affect such items as yarns, textiles and textile products, leather, etc.

Ceiling prices which woolen mills may charge on sales and deliveries of a specified 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ounce shirting flannel to the Army were announced (PM 3478) on shirtings that are made of 50 percent domestic and 50 percent foreign wool, 100 percent foreign wool, and 100 percent domestic wool.

WIRE SCREENS

Price Administrator Henderson asked all sellers of screen cloth to refrain from increasing their prices until July 15, even though an increase in milled prices of steel screen cloth was granted April 27 (T-387).

SUGAR

Suggestions have been made to ease the grocer's burden in the sugar-rationing program (T-393).

Price Administrator Henderson asked the Nation's newspapers to republish complete lists and addresses of local War Price and Rationing Boards in the cities of areas which they serve (PM 3505). This may aid persons applying for sugar purchase certificates for home canning or latecomers requiring war ration books on sugar.

RAYON GREY GOODS

Four report forms to be used by weavers of rayon grey goods have been mailed in time for manufacturers to file their reports on May production (PM 3506).

CRUDE WOOL GREASE AND DEGRAS

OPA has allowed the Chas. S. Bush Co. of Providence, R. I., to set its maximum prices on crude wool grease and degreas on the basis of 111 percent of its November 17, 1941, sales price (PM 3535).

HOUSEHOLD REFRIGERATORS

Specific maximum retail prices for new household refrigerators have been set in California, Washington, Oregon, Arizona, and Nevada (PM 3492).

TRANSPORTATION

Almost 10,000 bicycles have been released already by OPA to war production plants which are qualified to buy them, for transportation of workers and for messenger service (PM 3536).

A regulation has been issued on motor fuel sold at service stations (PM 3549) in order to bring price posting requirements in line with provisions of the General Maximum Price Regulation.

"X" cards, providing for unrestricted gasoline purchases, are eliminated in the new coupon plan for rationing gasoline, which OPA will put into effect on the East coast next month (PM 3543).

OPA asked car owners not to "live up" to their gasoline ration, but stay under it--to save both gasoline and tires (PM 3501).

A sharp pick-up in applications and issuance of ration certificates for new passenger cars during April as compared with March is indicated by returns to OPA from 31 States reporting thus far (PM 3491).

Regional reserve quotas of tires and tubes are provided (PM 3498). These may be drawn on for adjustment of the car owners' emergency needs.

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